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The University of Dayton

News Release

April 7, 1994

Contact: Candace Stuart

TEEN ARTIST SHOWS 'EM: HE PLANS TO EXHIBIT SCULPTURES HE MADE DURING MONTH AT UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON

DAYTON, Ohio -- Some of Nick Fuhrer's colleagues at Miami Valley School toured ancient sites in China. Others observed exotic marine life in the Bahamas. But for his monthlong "Immersion 94" project, the high school junior decided to stay in Dayton and explore his own talents.

Under the guidance of UD visual arts instructor John Britt, Fuhrer spent part of February and March designing sculptures in the ceramics studio on campus. He will display his works in the lobby of the Roesch Library in a show that opens April 15.

"I mainly wanted to experience what it is like to do art work all day long, and build up my portfolio," said Fuhrer, who developed the independent study project for "Immersion 94," an MVS program that allows students to broaden their education and explore career options. For a full month, students concentrate on their chosen project, which for some included a trip to China, Switzerland or the Bahamas.

Fuhrer used the opportunity to test his interest in the visual arts and witness first-hand the life of developing and professional artists. He said he was especially pleased to be able to watch Britt at work, because teaching in a university setting is one career option the teen is considering.

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"I saw Nick was extremely talented," said Britt. "I wanted to expose him to more than a high school could offer."

Fuhrer benefited from the contact with like-minded young artists, Britt said. "He got a sense of the camaraderie.... He became part of the community. He fit in well."

Fuhrer plans to feature at least eight of the sculptures he made during his Immersion experience in the April show. Most of the works are contorted faces or partial busts.

"Mainly heads," said Fuhrer. "They're fairly surreal."

The show will open Friday, April 15, and is expected to run through Saturday, May 7. The sculptures will be shown in conjunction with a photography exhibit by UD students.

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For interviews, call **John Britt** at (513) 229-3395 and **Nick Fuhrer** at (513) 296-0877. For more information or photos, contact **Candace Stuart** at (513) 229-3257.